

Natural Resources Conservation Service

**Application Ranking Summary
FY15 On-Farm Energy**

Program: EQIP 2014	Ranking Date:	Application
Ranking Tool: FY15 On-Farm Energy		Applicant:
Final Ranking Score:		Address:
Planner:		Telephone
Farm Location:		

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
If the application is for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), the agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering “Yes” to the following question. Answering “Yes” to question 1a will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the national priority category.	
1. a. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is “Yes”, do not answer any other national level questions. If answer is “No”, proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	250 Point(s)
Water Quality Degradation – Will the proposed project improve water quality by: (select all that apply)	
2. a. Implementing the practices in a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP)?	15 Point(s)
2. b. Implementing the practices in a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP)?	10 Point(s)
2. c. Reducing impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides on land adjoining a designated “impaired water body” (TMDL, 303d listed waterbody, or other State designation)?	10 Point(s)
2. d. Reducing the impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides in a “non-impaired water body”?	10 Point(s)
2. e. Implementing practices that improve water quality through animal mortality and carcass management?	10 Point(s)
Water Conservation – Will the proposed project conserve water by: (select all that apply)	

3. a. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce aquifer overdraft.	15 Point(s)
3. b. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce on-farm water use?	10 Point(s)
3. c. Implementing practices in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	10 Point(s)
3. d. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm water use as a result of changing to crops with lower water consumptive use, the rotation of crops, or the modification of cultural operations?	10 Point(s)
Air Quality - Will the proposed project improve air quality by: (select all that apply)	
4. a. Meeting on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	10 Point(s)
4. b. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm emissions of particulate matter (PM2.5, PM10)?	10 Point(s)
4. c. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm generated greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), and nitrous oxide (N2O)?	10 Point(s)
4. d. Implementing practices that increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	10 Point(s)
Soil Health:- Will the proposed project improve soil health by: (select all that apply)	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	10 Point(s)
5. b. Increasing organic matter and carbon content, and improving soil tilth and structure?	10 Point(s)
Wildlife Habitat – Will the proposed project improve wildlife habitat by: (select all that apply)	
6. a. Implementing practices benefitting threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern.	10 Point(s)
6. b. Implementing practices that retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) or other set-aside program?	10 Point(s)
6. c. Implementing practices benefitting honey bee populations or other pollinators?	10 Point(s)
6. d. Implementing land-based practices that improve habitat for aquatic wildlife?	10 Point(s)

Plant and Animal Communities: Will the proposed project improve plant and animal communities by: (select all that apply)	
7. a. Implementing practices that result in the management control of noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	10 Point(s)
7. b. Implementing practice in an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM)?	10 Point(s)
Energy Conservation– Will the proposed project reduce energy use by: (select all that apply)	
8. a. Reducing on-farm energy consumption?	10 Point(s)
8. b. Implementing practice(s) identified in an approved AgEMP or energy audit, which meet ASABE S612 criteria?	10 Point(s)
Business Lines – Will the practices to be scheduled in the “EQIP Plan of Operations” result in:	
9. a. Enhancement of existing conservation practice(s) or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is received?	10 Point(s)

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
Conservation Activity Plan (CAP) -	
1. Is the application for the development of CAP 128 Agricultural Energy Management Plan (AgEMP)? If “Yes”, do not answer any of the following questions below.	400 Point(s)
AgEMP or Energy Audit - Answer one of the following questions regarding the practices recommended in the applicant’s Agricultural Energy Management Plan (AgEMP) or On-Farm Energy Audit that meets the ASABE S612 Performing On-Farm Energy Audits Comprehensive Type 2 standards, which has been completed or updated in the last four years.	
2. a Does the EQIP Plan/Schedule of Operations include all eligible practices recommended in an AgEMP or On-Farm Energy Audit?	100 Point(s)
2. b If the EQIP Plan/Schedule of Operations does not include all eligible practices recommended in an AgEMP or On-Farm Energy Audit, does it include two or more eligible practices recommended?	50 Point(s)

Water Conservation – Will the proposed project conserve water by: (select all that apply)	
3. a Implementing irrigation practices that reduce energy use and reduce aquifer overdraft?	50 Point(s)
3. b Implementing practices that recycle or re-use water?	50 Point(s)
Air Quality - Will the proposed project improve air quality by: (answer one of the following)	
4. a Implementing energy practices that have been evaluated to reduce on-farm generated carbon dioxide (CO2) by 50,000 pounds or greater?	100 Point(s)
4. b Implementing energy practices that have been evaluated to reduce on-farm generated carbon dioxide (CO2) by at least 10,000 pounds, but less than 50,000 pounds?	50 Point(s)
4. c Implementing energy practices that have been evaluated to reduce on-farm generated carbon dioxide (CO2) by less than 10,000 pounds?	25 Point(s)
Energy Cost Efficiency - Use the Energy Cost Efficiency Worksheet to calculate the Estimated Energy Cost Efficiency for the practices in the EQIP Plan/Schedule of Operations. Use the resulting value to answer one of the following:	
5. a Is the Estimated Energy Cost Efficiency more than 50%?	100 Point(s)
5. b Is the Estimated Energy Cost Efficiency between 30% and 50%?	50 Point(s)
5. c Is the Estimated Energy Cost Efficiency less than 30%?	25 Point(s)

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Is the program application for implementation of a previously developed Agricultural Energy Management Plan approved by NRCS? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other local level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining 2 questions in this section.	250 Point(s)
2. The applicant has not had a NRCS conservation program contract terminated within the past 5 years.	150 Point(s)

Number:
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